
COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL,
CONTINUATION, OR C-I-P)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

TYPE OF DECLARATION

This declaration is for an original application.

INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name. I believe that I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter that is claimed, and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

TITLE OF INVENTION

Compositions and Methods for Generating Short Double-Stranded RNA Using Mutated RNase III

SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

The specification was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. PCT/US05/02029 filed on 21 January 2005.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, and in compliance with this duty, there is attached an information disclosure statement, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98.

PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. §§ 119(a)-(d), (f) 172, and 365(a) and (b))

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §§ 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

Such applications have been filed as follows.

**PRIOR PCT APPLICATION(S) FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS
(6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS APPLICATION
AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d)**

| INDICATE IF PCT | APPLICATION NUMBER | DATE OF FILING (DAY, MONTH, YEAR) | PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 37 U.S.C. SECTION 119 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| PCT | PCT/US05/02029 | 21 January | yes |

**CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S)
(35 U.S.C. § 119(e))**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

| PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER | FILING DATE |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 60/538,805 | January 23, 2004 |
| 60/543,880 | February 12, 2004 |
| 60/572,240 | May 18, 2004 |

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the practitioner(s) associated with Customer Number 28986 to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO

CUSTOMER NUMBER 28986

New England Biolabs, Inc.
32 Tozer Road
Beverly, MA 01915
US

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

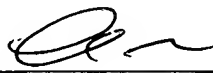
Harriet M. Strimpel, D.Phil.
978-380-7373

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

SIGNATURE(S)

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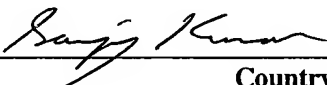
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